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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Applicants : Constantine Tsikos and C. Harry Knowles
Application Serial No.: 10/068,803
Filing Date : February 6, 2002
Title : BIOPTICAL PRODUCT AND PRODUCE IDENTIFICATION
SYSTEMS EMPLOYING PLANAR LASER ILLUMINATION
AND IMAGING (PLIIM) BASED SUBSYSTEMS
Examiner : Thien Le
Group Art Unit : 2876
Attorney Docket No. : 108-127USAND0

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312(a)

SIR:

Prior to payment of Issue Fee in the present Application, please amend the same as follows:

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 264 and 266-268, as follows:

Claims 1-263 (canceled)

Claim 264 (currently amended): A bioptical system which comprises:

a housing having a bottom portion and a side portion;

bottom and side light transmission apertures formed in said bottom and side portions, respectively;

a first imaging window mounted over said ~~first~~ bottom light transmission aperture, and a second imaging window mounted over said ~~second~~ side light transmission aperture;

a bottom planar laser illumination and imaging (PLIIM) based subsystem mounted within said bottom portion of the housing, and producing and projecting a first ~~planar~~ coplanar laser illumination beam (~~PLIB~~/~~field~~ PLIB) and field of view (FOV) through said ~~first~~ bottom light transmission aperture and said first imaging window;